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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

7 DECEMBER 2018

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Diego – Two Suspected Smugglers Arrested

(U) A big rig with nine unauthorized immigrants locked inside its trailer was discovered this week at the Border Patrol checkpoint on westbound Interstate 8 in Campo, authorities said. Border Patrol agents were conducting surveillance on the 2010 Volvo tractor trailer early this week, when it pulled into the checkpoint. During an initial inspection, a dog zeroed in on the trailer, and the big rig was sent for a more thorough check. Agents found nine unauthorized immigrants who were locked inside the trailer with no way to free themselves. A Mexican national driving the truck and all nine of those found in the trailer were arrested.

SOURCE: 6 December 2018, [San Diego Union Tribune](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Arizona – CBP Officers Seize \$1.37M in Drugs

(U) Tucson – US Customs and Border Protection officers arrested two connected with separate failed attempts to smuggle fentanyl, heroin, methamphetamine and marijuana into the United States. CBP officers referred a man for inspection of his truck. A narcotics detection canine alerted to a scent it was trained to detect within the truck's bed. Officers removed nearly 70 packages of drugs identified as more than 49 pounds of meth, worth more than \$148,000; almost 43 pounds of heroin, worth more than \$1.15M and .25 pound of fentanyl, worth more than \$3,400. Later, officers referred a resident for a further search of a Ford truck. Following a positive alert by a CBP canine to the back seats and spare tire, officers removed nearly 129 pounds of marijuana, worth nearly \$65,000. Officers seized the drugs and vehicles, while both subjects were arrested and then turned over to US Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations.

SOURCE: 6 December 2018, [CBP Press Release](#)

(U) Texas – 20 Illegal Immigrants Arrested During Smuggling Attempt

(U) Hebbronville – Border Patrol agents arrested 20 illegal immigrants during a human smuggling attempt. Agents responded to a report of possible immigrant smuggling activity and performed a vehicle stop on a white pickup truck traveling in the area. During the vehicle stop, the driver exited the vehicle and escaped into nearby brush. The 20 illegal immigrant passengers in the vehicle were detained and later determined to be from Ecuador, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Mexico. All illegal immigrant were placed under arrest and transported to the Border Patrol station for processing. The Border Patrol seized the vehicle used in the illegal immigrant smuggling attempt.

SOURCE: 6 December 2018, [ABC 3 News](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Lebanese Man Pleads Guilty to Evading US Sanctions

(U) Washington – A Lebanese businessman sanctioned by the US Treasury for being an important

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financial supporter of Hezbollah pleaded guilty yesterday to charges associated with evading US sanctions imposed on him. Kassim Tajideen, 63, pleaded guilty to conspiring with at least five other people to conduct more than \$50 million in transactions with US businesses in violation of the sanctions imposed on him, the department said in a statement. If his plea agreement is approved by the US District Court in Washington, Tajideen would serve five years in prison and pay a \$50 million criminal forfeiture in advance of his sentencing.

SOURCE: 6 December 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Massachusetts – Man Indicted on Charges of Sending White Powder

(U) Southwick – A man has been indicted on charges that he sent threatening letters and packages containing white powder to federal officials, including one that had a death threat against President Donald Trump. Kevin Johnson was indicted by a grand jury yesterday on charges of conveying false information and hoaxes and mailing threatening communication to a federal law enforcement officer. Federal prosecutors allege Johnson threw an envelope at the front door of the FBI's Springfield office that included a handwritten note that said: "Death to TRUMP." Prosecutors say Johnson also sent packages containing white powder to the Springfield offices of the FBI and the Social Security Administration. The powder turned out to be non-hazardous.

SOURCE: 6 December 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Ohio – Man Found Guilty of Providing Support to ISIS

(U) Dayton – Laith Alebbini has been found guilty of attempting to provide support or resources to a foreign terrorist organization. US District Judge Walter Rice stated that the government proved each and every element of the attempted crime. Rice also found Alebbini guilty of conspiracy to provide support to a foreign terrorist organization, namely ISIS. Sentencing is scheduled for March 2019.

SOURCE: 6 December 2018, [Dayton Daily News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Mexico – New Government Strikes Jalisco Cartel Finances**

(U) Mexico City – New Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador is taking aim at the finances of the powerful Jalisco cartel in what a top anti-money laundering official said was the opening salvo in the fight to stop criminal gangs from flourishing with impunity. Santiago Nieto, the new head of the finance ministry's Financial Intelligence Unit, told reporters that he had filed a complaint against three businesses and seven people linked to the Jalisco New Generation Cartel. The move against the Jalisco cartel, a relative newcomer that has risen to become one of Mexico's most dangerous criminal gangs, heralds a new effort to overcome Mexico's reputation for weak prosecutions against drug gang finances.

SOURCE: 7 December 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) United Kingdom – Police Arrest Three Men on Suspicion of Terror Offenses

(U) London – Police investigating extreme right-wing activity in the UK have arrested three men on suspicion of terrorism offenses. Those arrested are a 17-year-old from London, a 21-year-old from Bath and an 18-year-old from Portsmouth. The 21-year-old was arrested on suspicion of possessing material useful to someone preparing an act of terrorism and conspiracy to inspire racial or religious hatred. The 17-year-old was arrested on suspicion of encouraging terrorism, dissemination of terrorist publications, and conspiracy to inspire racial or religious hatred. The 18-year-old was arrested on suspicion of encouraging terrorism and dissemination of terrorist publications.

SOURCE: 6 December 2018, [BBC News](#)

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